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| Notice of Allowability | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/767,570 | URBON, MICHAEL P. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Faye Boosalis | 2884 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to submission of 15 June 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

EXAMINER'S COMMENT AND STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Comment on Submissions

1. This Office Action is responsive to submissions of 3 December 2004.

Examiner's Amendment

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with attorney Susan Parulski on 23 August 2006.

Claims 2 and 3 have been amended as follows:

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| --2, line 9. | access area is exposed to [the] <u>an</u> ambient environment in which the reader is disposed as the storage phosphor is transported along the path; |
| --3, line 11. | end of the path wherein the access area can be exposed to [the] <u>an</u> ambient environment as the storage phosphor is transported along the path; |

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-3 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding independent claim 1, the reference such as *Hall et al (US 7,087,918 B2)* disclose a storage phosphor reader, comprising: a receiving station (14) adapted to

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receive a cassette containing a removable storage phosphor; a path along which the storage phosphor is transportable in a first and second direction when removed from and returned to the cassette, the receiving station being disposed at one end of the path; an access area (22) disposed at the other end of the path wherein the access area can be exposed to ambient light as the storage phosphor is transported along the path; and an erase area (18), spaced from the access area (22), disposed along the path intermediate the receiving station (14) and the access area (22). However, the reference cannot be applied as prior art because it is filed after the instant application.

Regarding independent claims 2 and 3, the reference such as *Hall et al (US 7,087,918 B2)* disclose a storage phosphor reader, comprising: a receiving station (14) adapted to receive a cassette containing a removable storage phosphor; a path along which the storage phosphor is transportable in a first and second direction when removed from and returned to the cassette, the receiving station being disposed at one end of the path; an access area (22) disposed at the other end of the path wherein the access area is exposed to an ambient environment in which the reader is disposed as the storage phosphor is transported along the path; an erase area (18), separate from the access area (22), disposed along the path intermediate the receiving station (14) and the access area (22); and a removable or detachable cover (26) disposed in the access area. However, the reference cannot be applied as prior art because it is filed after the instant application.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Faye Boosalis whose telephone number is 571-272-2447. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dave Porta can be reached on 571-272-2444. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

8. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

FB


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